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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE
INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

SUBJECT Plans and Production in the DDR
Lignite Industry

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1. The planning department of HV Kohle (Main Administrative Division for Coal), DDR Ministry of Heavy Industry, continues to produce a variety of lignite production plans for 1955. These alternatives are being produced in order to be prepared to any eventualities that may arise through lack of plant and/or investment funds. At present, two plans are being worked out in detail: Plan "A", which envisages a total crude lignite production of 155 million tons, and plan "B", which envisages one of 172 million tons. Taking the 1950 total of DDR crude lignite production of 91.6 million tons (including deep mines) as a basis, plan "A" would obtain 47.7% of the production increase of 63.4 million tons through the extension of existing mines, and the remaining 52.3% through mines to be opened up by then. Plan "B", on that same basis, envisages that 42% of the production increase be obtained through extending existing mines, and 40% be obtained by new mines to be opened up.
2. The following mines are to be extended under both plans: Muecheln, Holzweissig, Skade, Spreetal, Herzdorf, E-Straß, Breitenhain, Franz Meining, Gluckauf II and Bitnitz.
3. The following new mines are to be opened up under both plans: Koyna Sud (under way, VVB Merseburg), Goitsche (VVB Bitterfeld), Seckenhain (VVB Borna), Gluckauf III (VVB Jolow), Bluno (VVB Jolow), Kowchen (VVB Senftenberg), one mine (unnamed, VVB Magdeburg) and possibly one mine at Muldenstein (VVB Bitterfeld).
4. Plan "A" establishes the following target figures (in million tons) for crude lignite:

VVB Borna	16.6
VVB Muecheln	8.3
VVB Merseburg	30.2
VVB Bitterfeld	16.5
VVB Magdeburg	4.6
VVB Leuchhammer	9.0
VVB Senftenberg	30.0
VVB Jolow	42.3

Total DDR

157.5

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The excess of 2.5 million tons of crude lignite above the plan target of 155 million tons has been included as a reserve and safety margin in order to insure in advance that the plan will be fulfilled.

5. At a mining engineers' conference held at the Kammer der Technik, Berlin, on 18-19 January 1951, Burdach fm, deputy head of HV Kohle, Ministry of Heavy Industry, announced the following target figures of the Five-Year Plan (1951-55) for the production of lignite industry plant equipment:

a. Open cast mines

- 18 Bucket wheel dredgers of 600-2,400 tons individual weight
- 25 Bucket chain dredgers of 800-2,240 liters bucket contents
- 7 Conveyor bridges of 1,400-7,000 tons individual weight
- 14 Transporters (Absetzer) of 1,100-2,240 liters bucket content
- 12 Plough regulators (Pflugregler) and tipping ploughs (Kippenpfluge)
- 21 Rail-shifting machines
- 200 Electric locomotives of 75-150 tons service weight
- 1,000 Standard and narrow gauge surface railway cars
- 600 Standard and narrow gauge railway cars for coal

b. Briquet factories

- 13 "Einstrang" presses
- 24 Double and twin presses
- 201 "Vierstrang" presses
- 94 Pipe dryers with 2,200 square meters heating surface each
- 47 Combustion gas dryers
- 46 High pressure boilers of 80 at. and 30-80 tons per hour steam each
- 21 Turbogenerators

6. The 1951 plan provides that open cast lignite mines receive a total of 27,000 tons of standard and narrow gauge rails during that year. Only 800 tons of rails had been delivered by mid-May 1951, and HV Kohle has now been informed by HV Metallurgie (Main Administrative Division for Metallurgy) that it will not receive any further allocations of rails this year, as even the demands of the railways, which are given priority, can not be met because of lack of steel and faulty production.
7. The Five-Year Plan first allocated the sum of 2.6 billion east marks to HV Kohle for investment purposes during that period. The figure has now been reduced to 1.8 billion east marks because of lack of funds and unavailability of plants.

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